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By: **Delegate James (Chairman, Joint Committee on Pensions)**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2004

Assigned to: Appropriations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System - DROP - Creditable Service**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a member of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension  
4 System to have a certain number of years of creditable service to be eligible to  
5 participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program; providing that one of  
6 the options for selecting the period of participation in the Deferred Retirement  
7 Option Program be based on a certain amount of creditable service; and  
8 generally relating to the creditable service required to participate in the  
9 Deferred Retirement Option Program for a member of the Law Enforcement  
10 Officers' Pension System.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article - State Personnel and Pensions  
13 Section 26-401.1(a)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article - State Personnel and Pensions  
18 Section 26-401.1(c) and (d)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
22 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article - State Personnel and Pensions**

24 26-401.1.

25 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

26 (2) "DROP" means the Deferred Retirement Option Program established  
27 under this section.

1                   (3)       "DROP member" means a member of the Law Enforcement Officers'  
2 Pension System who:

3                   (i)       is eligible to participate in the DROP as provided in subsection  
4 (c) of this section; and

5                   (ii)       elects to participate in the DROP as provided in subsection (e) of  
6 this section.

7       (c)       A member of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System is eligible to  
8 participate in the DROP if the member has at least 25 and less than 30 years of  
9 [eligibility] CREDITABLE service.

10       (d)       An eligible member may elect to participate in the DROP for a period not  
11 to exceed the lesser of:

12               (1)       5 years;

13               (2)       the difference between 30 years and the member's [eligibility]  
14 CREDITABLE service as of the date of the member's election to participate in the  
15 DROP and retire from the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System; or

16               (3)       a term selected by the member.

17       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 July 1, 2004.